

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 29, 2008 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 11, and 13-18 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to **claim 1** and all claims depending therefrom, the prior art of record neither describes nor sufficiently suggests a method for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing using a computer network including a plurality of reporting stations each including a display and a powerhorn, and a plurality of registrations stations each including a camera and fingerprint scanner, and a network server in wireless communication with all of said reporting stations and registration stations comprising the steps of: collecting registration information from a person at one of the registration stations, the registration information comprising photographing images of the person, obtaining a fingerprint, and recording the images and fingerprint record electronically, collecting and recording identifying information related to said person and a guardian or responsible person; transferring the information and recorded information to a portable storage medium; transferring the recorded images and identifying information to system server; receiving notification that the person is missing; upon

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receipt of a lost person notification, broadcasting images and digital fingerprint to all of the plurality of reporting stations, displaying the images to the general public on the display of the reporting stations while simultaneously announcing an alert on the powerhorn and providing the fingerprint to a proper authorities if said lost person is not returned.

As for **claim 6** and all claims depending therefrom, the prior art of record fails to sufficiently describe or suggest a lost person notification system for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing comprising: plural reporting stations each including a computer, display, and powerhorn, a portable storage medium, and a plurality of registration stations each including a computer, camera for recording images of a person, and personal identification forms. The plurality of registration stations record one or more images and identifying information from the personal identification forms to the portable storage medium and data handler software is resident on the system server. Reading of the portable storage medium by any of the reporting stations prompts a notification alert wherein identification information and images are communication immediately and instantaneously to the display and powerhorn of each of the plurality of reporting stations.

These along with further limitations set forth by the claims render the application allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIC M. BLOUNT whose telephone number is (571)272-2973. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Benjamin C. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Eric M. Blount/
Examiner, Art Unit 2612